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ABSTRACT

Since young children in general can benefit by experiencing literature in which African-American children are the central figures, this book presents 86 selected children's story books featuring African-Americans as main characters and provides extension activities to involve children actively with the books. The books included were written or illustrated by African-Americans, or are about African culture, customs, and folklore. Chapter 1, Children Love Books, discusses the arrangement of the book and how to use it. Chapters 2 through 8 present the story books in general categories: Beginner Books, Folklore and Music, Family, Stories and Poetry, Black History, Friends, and African Folktales and Customs. Each individual entry first presents information about the book being introduced plus a brief summary, then offers a "Story Time" section which states the theme of the story or narrative and describes ways to present it to children, and finally describes ideas for classroom activities which enlarge on the book's theme and message. Chapter 9 presents biographies of the authors and illustrators included in the text. An appendix includes a list of publishers, sources of other materials, sample parent letters, song lyrics, another story book entry, a 24-item bibliography, and a list of the Coretta Scott King Book Awards. (SR)

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